Add new claims 20, 21 and 22 as follows:

20. (New) The copolymer of claim 1 wherein said polyolefin is polypropylene.

21. (New) A process of forming a branched copolymer, which comprises:

treating a polyolefin with peroxide to provide terminal unsaturation, and

reacting the terminally-unsaturated polyolefin with a silicone polymer containing at least two Si-H groups in a melt phase reactive extrusion hydrosilylation reaction.

AY

22. (New) The process of claim 21 wherein said polyolefin is polypropylene.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been amended to introduce reference to the corresponding International Application of which this application is the National Phase equivalent.

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to specify that the melt phase hydrosilylation is effected by reactive extrusion as specified, for example, in Example 4. Claim 1 has been amended to replace reference to the "polypropylene" by reference to "polyolefin", as specified on page 5, line 6. New claim 20 has been directed to the polyolefin being polypropylene. New claims 21 and 22 have been added, directed to the two-step manufacturing process, described on page 8.

Attached hereto is a mark-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Respectfully submitted

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Immediately following the title and immediately preceding the first line of text, add to page 1:

"This application is a US National Phase filing pursuant to 35 USC 371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/CA99/00731 filed August 11, 1999."

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1 and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A branched copolymer of a polyolefin [~~polypropylene (PP)~~] and a silicone polymer which is produced by melt phase reactive extrusion hydrosilylation.

16. (Amended) A blend of incompatible blend partners which are polypropylene (PP) and a methylhydrosiloxane-dimethylsiloxane random copolymer (MDMS), in which the incompatible blend partners are connected by a melt phase reactive extrusion hydrosilylation reaction in the form of a branched PP-MDMS block copolymer.

Add new claims 20, 21 and 22 as follows:

20. (New) The copolymer of claim 1 wherein said polyolefin is polypropylene.

21. (New) A process of forming a branched copolymer, which comprises:

treating a polyolefin with peroxide to provide terminal unsaturated, and reacting the terminally-unsaturated polyolefin with a silicone polymer containing at least two Si-H groups in a melt phase reactive extrusion hydrosilylation reaction.

22. (New) The process of claim 21 wherein said polyolefin is polypropylene.